

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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TUESDAY JUNE 13, 1899.

PROFESSIONAL COMFORTERS.

A London Journal says:

"Today, even the emotions have a value in the money market. There are, in London, professional sympathizers, who soothe and comfort the bereaved in return for pelf, performing the service for which they are engaged in so tactful a way that they soon become indispensable to their employers."

One who kept a hotel in San Francisco during the time when thousands of men made profits in washing out gold dust from the Sacramento sands, said that he kept several "professional companions" as attaches of his hotel, whose duty it was to entertain visiting miners. Many of the miners who visited San Francisco were strangers, and although they had an abundance of gold dust, could not enjoy themselves because they were in fear of being robbed, or were suspicious of those who offered them acquaintance and social assistance. To such miners a duly authenticated person, genial and intelligent, became a safeguard and friend. He was more than a courier. He became a companion for the time being, and received a salary from the hotel keeper. When the miner had finished his visit, he generally compensated his official friend, and recommended him to others.

As the advance of civilization rapidly divides occupations, the "professional comforter" becomes a social necessity.

The average man or woman is much more interested in his or her own personal affairs than in other people's affairs, and takes much comfort in "unloading" his or her sorrows and tribulations upon some friend or acquaintance. This practice of "unloading," which is usually unnecessary and most disagreeable, destroys much of the enjoyments of social life, and in a higher civilization will be partially removed by the engagement of the "professional comforter," who will calmly, and with smiling interest, and for reasonable compensation, take the oppressive load of other's joys and sorrows. A person, disappointed in business, or in the pursuit of marriage, one who has been slighted in social matters, or has any grievance, should be able to command the services of the "comforter" at a stated hour, just as the services of a lawyer or dentist or doctor are commanded. Even those who are married, instead of loading each other up with mutual complaints, and reducing the pleasures of home life, should resort to these sympathizing professionals, and obtain from them agreeable and "patent medicine" halms for wounded feelings.

If fortune tellers, and palmists, and clairvoyants are important aids in social regeneration, a higher class of professional is necessary as the affairs of life become complicated, the time of each individual is more occupied, and temperaments become irritable. Even an institution in the nature of a hospital may be necessary, to which those who are sore with grievances may resort, and for a reasonable fee, command the services of a corps of professional comforters, well versed in the art of "ministering to a mind diseased."

The Board of Education should seriously consider the matter of educating such a desirable class.

PERPETUAL PLANTS.

One of the new industries lately developed in Europe is the preparation of living plants so that they become "perpetual." The market for them is large, for they are now shipped in quantities to the United States, and may be found even in California. The plants which are "perpetuated" are generally palms, ferns and grasses. Palms twelve feet high are successfully treated. The method of preparation is still a partial secret. The plants are treated at first in the tropical countries, where they are found in a healthy condition. Some kind of a solution is applied to the roots, which rots them quickly. They are then shipped to the factory in Germany and the leaves are treated also in some solution which preserves them. The stems are then placed in plaster of Paris and fixed in pots. Experiments are being made with the most delicate flowers, and it is believed that they will be successful. Some of the carnations and roses are so perfect that the "perpetuated" cannot be distinguished from the real flowers, unless a very close examination is made. They can hardly be distinguished even by the touch. Artificial perfumery is also used in keeping up the illusion. Not only are these perpetuated plants now used largely in the decoration of hotels, theaters and

ballrooms, but they are coming into general use in private residences. They are not affected by conditions which injure the live plants and flowers. The temperature does not hurt them, nor do they require watering. In climates where the cold weather quickly destroys delicate plants and flowers, the cost of decorating with them is large, and calls for experience and skill. The majority of people cannot afford to keep greenhouses, or to warm the rooms of their houses so as to keep an even temperature. The use of the real, but "perpetuated," article enables even the poorest to rival the richest in decorations.

The business in these plants has already become extensive in America, and will increase enormously. Although the method of preparation is a partial secret, it will not remain so for any length of time. As the process is a chemical one, there are scores of skilled and inventive chemists who will experiment in searching for the correct process, and some of them will discover it.

This method of preserving live plants and flowers will work a revolution in the decorations of homes. It will also create a large demand for tropical plants and flowers, and give employment to many persons who own small parcels of land. This discovery is only another illustration of the uses of sound knowledge and of the value of scientific inquiry.

KAMEHAMEHA THE FIRST.

June 11th is marked as the birth anniversary of the Great Kamehameha, the first ruler of these Islands, and the architect of his own empire. Upon him has been bestowed the title of "The Napoleon of the Pacific," but in the light of the whole aspect of his career it can be said that he is, within his sphere, a more striking historical personage than the Little Corporal. Kamehameha, with less selfishness in his motive, accomplished to the full his broad and cherished plans, whereas the Corsican could stamp over all of it only: Effort, but Failure. The name of Kamehameha is indissolubly associated with the magnificent report of Kingly success. It would be well to make a more thorough presentation of the life and services of this remarkable man who struck a nation into being. His was a character that will endure analysis. Such a career, realized as it should be known, is an inspiration and a treasure. Kamehameha was first a petty chief in Hawaii. He became a leader in the district of Kohala. He became King of the Island. By conduct of a series of brilliant campaigns he achieved authority over the group. He was able to maintain his high position. Bold and finished general that he was, perhaps his greatest strength was shown in administration of his government.

The genius—talent for work—of this Hawaiian was many sided. He lived simply and worked with his own hands. He encouraged industry while exemplifying it. The magnetism which attracted men to him was his fair frankness. His policy was proclaimed everywhere. He trusted his lieutenants. He confided in his people. His positiveness that his plans were for the best good was shared by all who came in contact with the spell of his magic clearness of thought and earnestness of purpose. He was always active, constantly aggressive. It was but natural that he should reap the rich harvest of tremendous toil. All this is the lesson that well-directed energy and that perseverance which is ever found where slothfulness has been banished, is able to fashion out its greatest works. It is written that in his early life Kamehameha was cruel, and almost savage, but he learned soon that kindly firmness was real strength. He was generous, considerate and appreciative of noble traits. He took correct measurement of friend and foe alike. He was well-nigh instinctive in appraising the possibilities or contingencies of opposition to his enterprises. Exalted for his wisdom, he was willing to be taught. He counseled with strangers and enlisted foreign allies, having the greatest care in preliminary negotiations, but binding closely to himself in the end his foreign associates, blending their interests with his own. A goodly portion of the extraordinary greatness of Kamehameha was in his fortitude against trials and discouragements. These were more than enough to rend in twain the stoutest heart. This is a timely lesson in the life of Hawaii for some of the men of the Islands to realize that within them must dwell a portion of Kamehameha's spirit. Let the smallest group of determined men of integrity once arouse and set in motion a clearly defined object a fraction of Kamehameha's impetus and the fruition of great and good movements will show within a halo of glory. Forward, tenacious, intelligent energy, such as here lies dormant, can and should solve the problems of the day and show to the world that the Islands as a whole are worthy the best that was in the man who consolidated them into one strong central government.

THE IRISH ARE HAPPY.

Fifteen years ago the British Parliament passed the laws which put life and energy into Ireland. The change in the condition of the Irish poor is rapid in comparison with the former state of stagnation. Over 11,000 cottages have been built and occupied by laborers. The mud hovels have given way to the three-roomed trim cottages. To the children of the laborers it is a fairy's palace. The half acre of land held in fee simple is the acquisition of a fortune. Capital and vested rights bitterly fought these improvements from the beginning. It yielded at first to the farmer peasant, but refused to aid the fishermen, and the weavers. Laws were passed which secured for these persons the right to have homes. The land hunger of the large farmers and absentee made them fiercely fight against the taking of these lands, however small the parcels were or large the compensation was. A very small percentage of the agricultural laborers have yet had benefits of the new laws. But during the last fifteen years, the authorities have been feeling their way, friction has been avoided, new laws have been passed, defective laws amended, and more than all, a feeling of contentment has spread over the island.

The United States have indirectly caused this great change. It has called over the Irish immigrant until there was danger of the depopulation of Ireland. The Tories fought stoutly every movement made by the Liberals for the benefit of the Irish, and then, as usual, when the Tory statesmen came into power they did for the Irish what they had refused to aid in doing, when the Liberals were in power.

An economic law has done more for Ireland than all the Christian philanthropy of Great Britain. For a hundred years since Emmet was long for treason, the Irish appealed for justice in vain. The Church Missionary Society sent its agents to the distant heathen, but it could not fix its eye upon the hideousness of the debasement of the Irish, and their sufferings. While it cost \$5000 to secure one convert to Christianity in Palestine, and it cost \$1000 apiece to secure converts in Arabia, thousands of Irish children, emaciated with hunger, lived in hovels and died of disease. So callous and indifferent had been the English people to the condition of a people separated from them only by a channel, their sufferings and degradation were unknown until a few philanthropists placed before their eyes the thrilling pictures of distress due simply to bad laws. America opened her gates to the Irish, and when the British economists saw the final depletion of the land was inevitable, they gave a warning to the politicians, and the reform began.

The most revolutionary change in the local government has been made during the present year. Three months ago the thirty-two counties of Ireland were governed by a close corporation of landlords, Unionists and Protestants. Today they, or nine-tenths of them, are governed by a popular body of tenants and peasants and peasant proprietors, Nationalists and Catholics.

The revolution has been a silent one. The British nation could tenderly care for its East India coolie laborers, but it looked on for a century at the sufferings of the poor on the other side of the Irish Channel, and never moved its hand in aid until the prairies of Western America touched the national pocket.

A FLOURISHING INDUSTRY ENDS.

During the period beginning in the "thirties" and ending in the "sixties," the town of New Bedford, Mass., was the most prosperous place financially in the United States, in proportion to the number of its inhabitants. Its enterprising merchants and seamen realized the value of the whale fisheries, and equipped numerous ships that chased the sperm whales in the Atlantic and then doubled Cape Horn in the pursuit of the right whales. The towns of New London and Sag Harbor and the people of Nantucket were also engaged in the business.

As the fisheries declined in the North Pacific the ships pushed into the Bering Sea, and during the open season, caught the big fish, and when the ice closed in they bore away for these Islands, where they refitted and recruited until the season again opened. At the end of a three years' cruise each vessel again doubled Cape Horn for the home port, and every man and boy from the captain down got his share in the venture, because no wages were paid.

These were the bonanza days of New Bedford. Whale oil was mainly used for illuminating purposes, and the bone had some value in the arts.

As a rule each vessel was equipped through the division of the venture into shares. These shares returned enormous profits. Every merchant, every clerk, every professional man, every carpenter and many of the domestic servants owned shares in these vessels. Whenever a shipping house

proposed a new venture the subscription list was passed around the town, and both sexes, and people of all conditions at once filled it. Although the indiscriminate slaughter of whales continued, especially the slaughter of the "calves," which were left to perish, new fishing grounds were opened in the Japan Sea. There was no American nor international law which forbade the useless destruction of the young, by depriving them of their mothers, and it was merely a question of time when the industry would end.

In 1860 experiments made with the shales of Nova Scotia developed the existence of coal oil. A process was invented for its distillation. Among those who invested in this new industry was the noted Delmonico of New York, who ventured his entire fortune in it. Just after the process for extracting the oil from the shale had become profitable, the natural oil wells of Pennsylvania were discovered. At once the price of illuminating oil fell. Coal oil began to take the place of whale oil. Those who had invested in the new processes for distilling coal oil were made bankrupts. The great prosperity of New Bedford began to decline. The fleets of whale ships which had visited this port and Lahaina every season, to the number of two hundred and more, rapidly decreased. San Francisco became the port for supplies, and in time what remained of the industry passed into the hands of the merchants of that place, and it is now in their hands. During the "forties" as many as one hundred and fifty whalers visited the harbor of Honolulu at the same time. The average tonnage of these whalers was about three hundred and fifty, and they lay side by side, like packed sardines, in our harbor. The average crew consisted of about thirty men, and as many as three thousand seamen at one time generously distributed the vices of civilization among the native Hawaiians.

New Bedford, New London, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Sag Harbor went to seed. The ships rotted away or were sold. The young men scattered and settled in the larger cities, or emigrated to the West. A large part of the capital accumulated by the fisheries was transferred to Boston and New York. The enterprising men of those places believed that new industries would take the place of the old one. But economic laws ruled these places out, and grass grew in the streets. The only hope of new prosperity was in the line of manufacturing. New Bedford alone established several cotton mills, but the profits from these were insignificant in comparison with the extravagant returns of the whale fisheries.

The demand for whalebone has increased to such an extent that if the prices now paid for it had prevailed in the early days the dividends of the owners of shares in the whaling fleet would have been fabulous—far exceeding the dividends of the most successful plantations.

The story of the whale fisheries is simply one of the rise and decline of great prosperity, leaving the descendants of those who were fortunate enough to share in it, no better intellectually and morally than if they had earned a hard living out of the rocky soil of New England. Prosperity developed more vice than virtue.

SOLOMON AND THE BRITISH QUEEN.

A sensitive British essayist predicts the speedy downfall of the British Empire, and the Divine vengeance upon the British Queen, because she and her Government permit heathenish rites and customs to prevail throughout India. The heathen temples and idols are carefully protected. The ancient temple of Buddha, at Gaya, has just been rebuilt. The sacred laws of Brahman, Buddhist, Parsee and Moslem are respected, and the violation of any shrine of Vishnu, or of any Hindu deity, is punished with imprisonment. This essayist, who is an alarmist, asks the British public to recall the wickedness of Solomon in this respect, and he asks, with the finger of scorn pointed in their faces, how long will the Almighty tolerate this encouragement of idolatry?

On consulting the Biblical history of Solomon's rather loose dealings with strange gods, it appears that this venerable ancestor of Brigham Young mixed up his matrimonial affairs with his religion, just as many hundred years later his distinguished relative mixed them up in the Salt Lake Valley.

"Now King Solomon loved many foreign women beside the daughter of Pharaoh—Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Zidonian, and Hittite." And under the influences of these seven hundred wives, he built "a high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab," and he went after Ashtoreth, and Milcom, and other notorious gods whose names appeared in the Thurn's Annual of those days.

The parallel lines of conduct in the public administrations of King Solomon and the British Queen have been prompted by entirely different motives. King Solomon, for a wise man and an anointed person was unques-

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tionably weak on the subject of matrimony, and miscalculated its effects as a political force. Where monogamy prevails it is said that one wife not infrequently becomes the master of the situation. When the seven hundred wives of Solomon entered a "combine" against him, and insisted on introducing and worshipping their alien gods, he, like men of his own times, and like men of the present time, yielded to female importunity, and got "left." It is said by commentators that King Solomon married scores of princesses from other nations and tribes, in order to secure peace and order. But any of the tramps walking about the streets of Jerusalem would have told him, if he had asked for points, that his policy was a dangerous one.

The British nation, and the British Queen, on the other hand, are professing Christians. All matrimonial schemes like those of Solomon have been avoided in the government of India. No member of the Royal Family has been required to marry an Indian Princess, however helpful it would be to the maintenance of British rule.

At the same time, many hundreds of years after Solomon's unfortunate experiments in going after other gods, this Government, perhaps the most enlightened upon the earth through its vast experiences in all regions, is protecting idolatry, and encouraging heathenism. While the great Church Missionary Society is supporting missionaries, who tell the millions of people in India that their gods are worthless, and their religions are utterly wicked, the nation itself, in close partnership and alliance with the Established Church, punishes with imprisonment any act of disrespect to these brazen images.

The British nation is, probably, quite right in the attitude it has taken. But those impracticable persons who set up as moral teachers of men, and discourse with much learning on the abstract principles of right and wrong, have the most serious difficulty in giving any really adequate explanation of this extraordinary phenomenon of civil government in India.

Fortunately in Hawaii, nearly all of the surviving idols have been gathered into the Bishop Museum, where the High Priest Brigham feeds, cares for and communes with them, but does not permit them to leave the premises and worry the Government into recognizing them as a social and religious force, or to demand that a temple be built for them on some lot adjoining the Central Union premises in Beretania Street.

The "rights of idols" both here and in India are worthy of the most careful examination by the Social Science Society.

A CONVENT'S CENTENNIAL.

WASHINGTON, May 30.—Cardinal Gibbons, the papal delegate, Mgr. Martinelli and other prominent Catholic churchmen took part today in the second day's celebration of the centennial of the Georgetown Convent. At least a thousand women, representing every State in the Union and many of the Latin-American countries, took part in the ceremonies.

The Russian cruiser Razboynik sailed for Yokohama at 4 o'clock last Saturday afternoon. Captain Russowich and the officers of the Razboynik that morning returned the calls of the many friends they made here during their brief stay since the arrival of the ship from Valparaiso, May 29.

The Tillie E. Starbuck now on her way from Hilo to New York with a big cargo of sugar is so well-known in this port that it will be of interest to her many friends to remember that she was the first metal ship built in the United States and one of the very first in the world. The Starbuck went into commission June 12, 1883, and she is today trading around the world, one of the most picturesque and profitable vessels of her class in existence, sailing from New York to San Francisco and from San Francisco to Hawaii as readily as though steam had never been discovered. She was built for William H. Starbuck of New York and named by him after his wife, Miss Tillie E. Irving, a Chester girl.

HALF A DOZEN

Questions to be Discussed By Ladies on Friday.

Scheme for a Cooking School—Chinese and Japanese—The Grade Certificate.

The ladies of Honolulu are requested to attend a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. Hall on Friday morning, the 16th inst., at half-past nine.

First—To discuss the advisability or feasibility of forming a society or league of the housekeepers of Honolulu, for the purpose of raising funds to establish a cooking school, and employ a competent, professional cook for the training of Chinese and Japanese.

Second—Such Chinese and Japanese to pay a certain fee for the privilege of receiving instruction at said school.

Third—Said cooking school to issue certificates to servants after they have gone through a certain period of training.

Fourth—Such certificates to be of different grades, for instance, first, second and third, according to competence, and rates of wages to be regulated by the grade of certificate held by servant.

Fifth—All housekeepers, or those belonging to the society, to unite in refusing to employ cooks who do not carry certificates from said cooking school.

Sixth—Cooks who have been in the employ of persons for a number of years, and are satisfactory and competent, to be granted certificates upon examination by professional cook, employed by the Honolulu School of Cookery.

The above is only a synopsis of the views of a few ladies who hope to interest others in the good work.

AFFABLE WILLIAM.

The German Ruler Chats With Lieut. Beecher, U. S. N.

BERLIN.—Lieutenant-Commander W. H. Beecher, United States naval attaché at Rome and Vienna, was presented to Emperor William at Potsdam recently. He was cordially welcomed by His Majesty, who highly complimented the American navy, and instanced the voyage of the Oregon from the Pacific to the West Indies, and the battle of Santiago as examples of its effectiveness. His Majesty displayed marvelous information regarding the ships and details of the events at Santiago, and asked: "Where is 'Fighting Bob'?"

Lieutenant-Commander Beecher has been invited to dine at the palace next Tuesday. Admiral Tirpitz and the other German naval officials are most cordial toward him.

ANDREE'S BALLOON.

The best opinion now seems to be that Andree's balloon alighted somewhere in Northeastern Siberia, and that his fate will soon be determined. There seems to be no doubt that about two months after he set out on his aerial voyage a balloon was seen by the inhabitants of a village in Siberia. It was, of course, impossible that the original balloon could have kept aloft for such a length of time, and the explanation given is that Andree had constructed a fire balloon as a signal, which seems to be borne out by the fact that the object seen by the villagers was visible only for about fifteen minutes. It is thought that the condensed provisions carried by the party, with what game they may have taken, would be sufficient to keep them alive until the present, if no accidents befell them.

ILLUMINATING SHELLS.

Illuminating shells for lighting up large areas of ocean in life-saving work, or to obtain the range of the vessels of an enemy are now proposed. The shell used is a hollow cylinder made of steel tubing, and charged with calcium carbide, which, coming into contact with water, generates acetylene gas. The end of the shell remains above water, and at this end are burners lighted by an electric device contained in the shell. It is claimed that the light produced is of 1000 candle power and cannot be extinguished by water. The shell is to be shot from a gun to a distance of two miles, and floats with one-quarter of its length above water.

RUSSIA'S MISFORTUNES.

ODESSA, May 30.—The winter wheat crop of Southern Russia has been completely destroyed by a protracted drought. The spring wheat crop is also in jeopardy from the same cause.

The steamer Moscow has sailed with 2500 Cossack immigrants for Port Arthur.